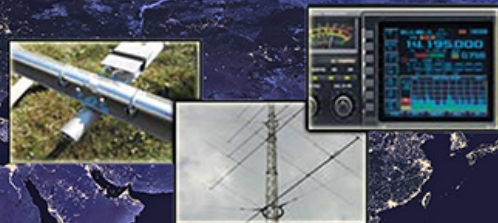




Repeater: NØDX 145.190 MHz (Input 144.590 / Tone 192.8 Hz)



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The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 295, October 10, 2025

Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active; articles that are announcements of ongoing operations, or that have no specified end date, will be removed after three weeks.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section, updated daily; and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

This bulletin is available via email subscription only. See

<http://www.arrl.org/bulletins> to subscribe. (The online archive is no longer updated.)

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

[Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

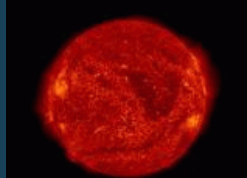
Dr. Tony Phillips' [SpaceWeather.com](#), used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)



Solar-Terrestrial Data

11 Oct 2025 1710 GMT
SFI: 121 SN: 88
A-Index: 9
K-Index: 2
X-Ray: B6.7
304A: 133.8 @ SEM
Ptn Flx: 8
Elc Flx: 1610
Aurora: 3/n=1.99
Mag (Bz): 4.1
Solar Wind: 394.5
Geomag Field QUIET
Sig Noise Lvl S1-S2
Current Solar Image



<http://www.nonbh.com>
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DX News

5H, TANZANIA. Maurizio, IK2GZU will be active again as **5H3MB** from Tanzania from **October 16th to November 20th**, while doing volunteer work at a local school. In his spare time, he will operate SSB, CW and digital modes on 80-10 meters. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW, and eQSL, or via [IK2GZU](#).
-[425DXN # 1795 September 27, 2025] (1010-1121)

5R, MADAGASCAR. Eric, F6ICX will be active again as **5R8IC** from Sainte-Marie Island (AF-090), Madagascar from **October until late December** or early January. He will operate CW with some FT8 (F/H) and SSB on 40-10 meters; during the last two weeks of December and maybe the first week of

January he will also be QRV via QO-100. QSL via LoTW, [ClubLog's OQRS](#), or via [F6ICX](#).
-[425DXN # 1795 September 27, 2025] (1003-1017)

7Q, MALAWI. Zachary, KJ5BIN, has set up a remote station during his volunteering at a hospital in Embangweni, which he now uses with the callsign **7Q5BIN** on 10 and 6m (SSB, FT8/4). QSL direct via [KJ5BIN](#), OQRS.

-[DXNL # 2477 September 24, 2025] (0926-1017)

9A, CROATIA. Special callsign **9A1ØSOTA** celebrates ten years of SOTA Croatia. Look for activity from **October 1st to September 30, 2026**. A certificate will be available for contacts made between October 1st and December 31st, 2025. See <https://9aff.wordpress.com/> for information. QSL via LoTW.
-[425DXN # 1795 September 27, 2025] (0926-1017)

9M, MALAYSIA. Members of the DX club in Kulai operate for a scout meeting as **9M4JOTA** from **October 10th to 20th**. See <https://www.qrz.com/db/9M4JOTA>. QSL via qrz.com.

-[DXNL # 2479 October 8, 2025] (1010-1024)

9N, NEPAL. Suvarna, OMØGA has moved permanently to India, where he holds the callsign VU3OPT. He will be QRV as **9N/OMØGA** from **September 2nd to October 13th**. See <https://www.9n7ga.com> for more information.

-[425DXN # 1794 September 20, 2025] (0919-1017)

C2, NAURU. Phill, **C21TS** now expects to remain on Nauru (OC-031) **until November 30th**. After a 2-month leave, "I'll probably be back for a few months from February 2026 with minimal gear", he says. He will be QRT for good no later than June 2026. QSL via LoTW, or via [MØOXO's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1795 September 27, 2025] (0926-1130)

CEØX, SAN FELIX & SAN AMBROSIO IS. The DXpedition to Sam Ambrosio (SA-013), scheduled for October/November 2025 is **delayed until January/February 2026**. The operating permit is valid from January 12th until February 15th, allowing for at least 25 days on the air. Most of the necessary gear, which is also to include a Radio-in-a-box rig for remote operation, will be transported to Robinson Crusoe Island (CEØZ), the point of departure for the expedition, during the next weeks. See also: <https://www.sanambrosio-project.com>. QSL via [MØURX's OQRS](#), LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2479 October 8, 2025] (1010-1017)

CT3, MADEIRA IS. Georg, DD8ZX, is going to pay Madeira (AF-014) a visit from **October 3rd to 16th**, signing **CT9/DD8ZX**. QRV mostly on FT8 with 10W and a wire antenna. QSL via bureau.

-[DXNL # 2479 October 8, 2025] (1010-1017)

DL, GERMANY. The special event stations **DC75DARC**, **DD75DARC**, **DK75DARC**, and **DR75DARC** continue to celebrate DARC's 75th anniversary **until the end of October**. An award program, involving QSOs with DARC members, DARC officials, and club stations is also available via the DARC Community Logbook (DCL). QSL for all for callsigns via [DL2VFR](#).

-[DXNL # 2477 September 24, 2025] (0926-1031)

DXCC TOP TWENTY. Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of October 10, 2025:

1. P5	DPRK (North Korea)	11. VKØM	Macquarie Island
2. BS7H	Scarborough Reef	12. KH4	Midway Island
3. CEØX	San Felix Islands	13. PYØS	Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
4. BV9P	Pratas Island	14. KP5	Desecheo Island
5. KH7K	Kure Island	15. VPØS	South Sandwich Islands
6. KH3	Johnston Island	16. ZL9	New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
7. 3Y/P	Peter 1 Island	17. FK/C	Chesterfield Islands
8. FT5/X	Kerguelen Island	18. VKØH	Heard Island
9. YVØ	Aves Island	19. FT/T	Tromelin Island
10. 3Y/B	Bouvet Island	20. EZ	Turkmenistan

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>

-[KØCF October 10, 2025] (1010-1031)

E5/N, NORTH COOK IS. Team **E51MWA** (Robert N7QT, Jack N7JP, James KC7EFP, Brian N9ADG, and YL operators Robin WA7CPA and Violetta KN2P) will be active from Manihiki Atoll (OC-014), North

Cook Islands on **October 9th-20th**. They will operate CW, SSB, and FT8 (F/H) on 160-10 meters with three stations. See <https://www.e51mwa.com> for more information and updates. Selective LoTW upload will be in place. QSL via [MØURX's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1787 August 2, 2025] (1003-1024)

E6, NIUE. The Rebel DX Group has been active as **E6AD** from Niue (OC-040) **since October 7th**. This is a 2-man activity. "Digital is a priority", they say, "some CW and SSB will be done from time to time". See <https://www.qrz.com/db/E6AD> for more information. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1797 October 11, 2025] (1010-1031)

EA, SPAIN. Special callsign **AN5CV** will be activated on **October 6th-12th** to celebrate the Day of the Valencian Community. Certificates and eQSLs will be available on HamAward: <https://hamaward.cloud/>.

-[425DXN # 1796 October 4, 2025] (1003-1017)

F, FRANCE. Michel, F8GGZ will be active as **TM8ØUCO** on **October 12th-19th** for the 80th anniversary of UNESCO, the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization that promotes cooperation in education, science, culture and communication. He will operate SSB and CW on 80-10m. QSL via eQSL only.

-[425DXN # 1797 October 11, 2025] (1010-1024)

H4, SOLOMON IS. Bernhard, DL2GAC, is QRV as **H44MS** from Malaita Island (OC-047) **until November 25th**. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL to [DL2GAC](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 41 October 9, 2025] (1010-1128)

HH, HAITI. Members of Radio Club d'Haiti will be active as **4V1SB** on **October 1st-31st**. The special callsign commemorates Simon Bolivar, who led several South American countries to independence from the Spanish Empire. Haiti played a crucial role in Bolívar's revolutionary efforts by offering him refuge and providing significant military support. QSL via [N2OO](#).

-[425DXN # 1796 October 4, 2025] (1003-1031)

HK, COLOMBIA. Special callsigns **5J3HD** and **5K3CD** celebrate Hispanicity Day and Columbus Day for members of the Liga de Radioaficionados de Bogota (HK3LRB) on **October 11th-13th**. QSLs via LoTW, QRZ Logbook, eQSL, or direct to [HK3LRB](#).

-[425DXN # 1796 October 4, 2025] (1010-1017)

HKØ, SAN ANDRES & PROVIDENCIA. Team **5KØUA** (HK1T, HJ1YL, K2BB and UUØJR, plus possibly US7UX, VA2WA and WB2AA) will be active from San Andres Island (NA-033) from **October 15th to November 3rd**. They will operate CW, SSB and FT8 on 160-10 meters, and will participate in the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (October 25th-26th). See <http://imdx.org/> for more information. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1797 October 11, 2025] (1010-1107)

HP, PANAMA. Alex, F4GHS will be active as **HP3/F4GHS** from Hermosa Bay in the Chiriqui Province of Panama on **October 9th-17th**. He will be QRV mainly on 20 meters SSB. QSL via [F4GHS](#).

-[425DXN # 1797 October 11, 2025] (1010-1017)

I, ITALY. Members of ARI Gorizia (IQ3GO) will be active as **I13GONG** from **October 1st to December 29th**. The special callsign's suffix stands for Gorizia (Italy) and Nova Gorica (Slovenia), the first cross-border European Capital of Culture. A certificate will be available, see <https://www.qrz.com/db/I13GONG> for information. QSL via the bureau and eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1795 September 27, 2025] (0926-1024)

I, ITALY. Celebrating 130 years of radio and IARU's centenary, several special callsigns will be in use from **September 15th to October 15th**: **I1ØIARU** (Sardinia), **I11IARU**, **I12IARU**, **I13IARU**, **I14IARU**, **I15IARU**, **I16IARU**, **I17IARU**, **I18IARU**, **I19IARU**, **I1ØIARU**, **I2IARU**, **I3IARU**, **I7IARU** and **I8IARU**, as well as **I11RVCO**, **I12RBUS**, **I13RTRE**, **I2RGAL**, **I2RIMV** and **I2RMAG**. See <https://www.ari.it/> for more information. Certificates and eQSLs will be available on HamAward.

-[425DXN # 1793 September 13, 2025] (0912-1017)

J3, GRENADA. Eric, GM5RDX and Graham, 2MØIJU will be active as **J38DX** and **J38LD**, respectively, from Grenada (NA-024) on **October 8th-15th**. They will operate mainly SSB, with some FT8, on 80-6 meters. QSL for both callsigns via [MØOXO's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1795 September 27, 2025] (1003-1017)

JA, JAPAN. The two special event callsigns **8K3EXPO** & **JA3XPO** will **conclude** their activities for the EXPO 2025 exhibition in Osaka **on October 13th**. QSL via bureau, LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2479 October 8, 2025] (1010-1017)

JA, JAPAN. Mitsuru, JE1HXZ will be active as **JE1HXZ/6** from Kita-Daito Island (AS-047) on **October 8th-15th**. He will operate CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8/FT4 on 160-6 meters. QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1796 October 4, 2025] (1003-1017)

JA, JAPAN. Take, JI3DST will be active as **JS6RRR** from Miyako Island (AS-079) from **September 26th until December 3rd**. He will operate SSB, CW and FT8 on 40-6 meters. Other callsigns to be used are **JI3DST/6**, **JJ5RBH/6**, **JI3DST/p** and **JJ5RBH/p**. QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1796 October 4, 2025] (1003-1031)

JD1/M, MINAMI TORISHIMA. Take, JG8NQJ has been back to the weather station on Minami Torishima (OC-073) since September 18th, and will remain there until December, his QSL manager reports. Take is QRV as **JG8NQJ/JD1** in his limited spare time. He operates CW and some FT8 (please note that he wants you to call with your signal report, not your grid square). QSL via [JA8CJY](#) (direct), [JG8NQJ](#) (bureau) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1794 September 20, 2025] (0919-1024)

JW, SVALBARD. Look for JW7XK, JW9DL and JW6VM to be active from the Svalbard Amatorradioklubb in Longyearbyen (EU-026), Svalbard on October 8th-13th. They will participate in the Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB (October 11th-12th) as **JW5X**. Outside the contest, **JW9DL** will be mostly active on FT8 and FT4, **JW6VM** on CW, and **JW7XK** via satellite (RS-44) on CW, SSB and FT4. QSL JW7XK via [LA7XK](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#) and LoTW. QSL JW9DL via [LA9DL](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#) and LoTW. QSL JW6VM via [LA6VM](#). QSL JW5X via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW, or via [LA5X](#).

-[425DXN # 1795 September 27, 2025] (1003-1017)

K, UNITED STATES. Radio club **NI6BB** aboard the USS Iowa marks the 200th anniversary of the US Navy from **October 4th to 19th**. See also <https://biara.org>.

-[DXNL # 2478 October 1, 2025] (1003-1024)

KHØ, MARIANA IS. Harry, JG7PSJ is QRV as **WHØRU** from Saipan (OC-086) **until October 12th**. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes. QSL via LoTW or direct to [JG7PSJ](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 40 October 2, 2025] (1003-1017)

LX, LUXEMBOURG. Special callsigns **LX25GDH** (**September 3rd - October 3rd**) and **LX25GDG** (**October 3rd - November 3rd**) are the for Radioamateurs du Luxembourg (RL, Luxembourg's IARU society) to mark the "Trounwiessel" - the accession to the throne of Prince Guillaume, who is set to become Grand Duke on October 3rd upon the abdication of his father the Grand Duke Henri. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1792 September 6, 2025] (0905-1107)

ON, BELGIUM. The ONZ Oostkust Radioclub (ON6HC) will be active on all bands and modes as **OR81C** from **October 15th to November 14th** to commemorate the 81st anniversary of the liberation of the region of Knokke-Heist by Canadian troops in 1944. A certificate will be available:

<https://www.onz.be/or81c-award-request/>. QSL via eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1797 October 11, 2025] (1010-1114)

OX, GREENLAND. Bo, OZ1DJJ will be active again as **OX3LX** from Greenland (NA-018) from **October 3rd to 21st**. As always, this will be a working trip, and he will be QRV only in his spare time. QSL via LoTW, [ClubLog's OQRS](#) or via [OZØJ](#).

-[425DXN # 1796 October 4, 2025] (1003-1024)

PA, NETHERLANDS. Volker, DL1WH will be active holiday style as **PA/DL1WH** from Texel Island (EU-038) on **October 11th-24th**. He will operate mainly CW, with some SSB. QSL via [DL1WH](#).

-[425DXN # 1797 October 11, 2025] (1010-1024)

PA, NETHERLANDS. Special callsign **PA8ØVERON** celebrates the 80th anniversary of the Dutch IARU society, Vereniging voor Experimenteel Radio Onderzoek in Nederland (VERON). QSL via [PA1AW](#).

-[425DXN # 1796 October 4, 2025] (1003-1024)

PJ2, CURACAO. Andre, PD1DRE, is currently vacationing on Curacao (SA-099) and signs **PJ2/PD1DRE** until **October 28th** on 40-10m (SSB, FT8), mostly during his evening and night hours. QSL via eQSL.

-[DXNL # 2479 October 8, 2025] (1010-1031)

PY, BRAZIL. Special callsign **PX1ØØIARU** was issued to the Liga de Amadores Brasileiros de Radio Emissao (LABRE) which is hosting the IARU Region 2 General Assembly. Look for activity on "all bands, all modes and satellite" until **October 12th**. A certificate can be requested by contacting awards@labre.org.br with the QSO details. QSL via LoTW; paper cards will not be available.

-[425DXN # 1797 October 11, 2025] (1010-1017)

PYØF, FERNANDO DE NORONHA. Mario, PY2DV as **PYØFB** (80-6 meters SSB and some FT8) and Bruce, PY2BS as **PYØFBS** (23cm EME) will be active from Fernando de Noronha (SA-003) on **October 8th-15th**. QSLs via [MØURX's QQRS](#) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1791 August 30, 2025] (1003-1017)

PYØS, ST. PETER & ST. PAUL ROCKS. Ops KO8SCA, PY2XB, AA7JV, KN4EEI, PY5CC, and HA7RY activate St. Peter and St. Paul Rocks (SA-014) during October and November. The actual dates will be announced later. They will deploy Radios in Boxes (RIB) on the island and use them from aboard a vessel. For their actual callsign and other updated information see: <http://py0s2025.com>.

-[DXNL # 2478 October 1, 2025] (1003-1024)

S7, SEYCHELLES. Kasimir, DL2SBY will be active as **S79/DL2SBY** from the Seychelles from **September 28th to October 12th**. He will be QRV on the HF bands with verticals and an inverted vee, and on 6 meters with 5-element Yagi. QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog. QSL via LoTW, or direct to [DL2SBY](#).

-[425DXN # 1794 September 20, 2025] (0926-1017)

SM, SWEDEN. Eight special callsigns (**7S1ØØSSA**, **8S1ØØSSA**, **SB1ØØSSA**, **SC1ØØSSA**, **SD1ØØSSA**, **SE1ØØSSA**, **SF1ØØSSA** and **SM1ØØSSA**) will be in use from **September 10th to October 12th** in celebration on the 100th anniversary of the Foreningen Sveriges Sandareamatorer (SSA), Sweden's IARU member society. Look for activity on 160-6 meters CW, SSB and digital modes. Details of the award program will be published on <https://hamaward.cloud/awards>.

-[425DXN # 1791 August 30, 2025] (0905-1017)

TG, GUATEMALA. Dwight, VE7BV will be QRV as **TG9BBV** from **October 5th to 25th**. Activity will be on 40 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and possibly FT8. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 40 October 2, 2025] (1003-1024)

V5, NAMIBIA. Wolfgang, DH3WO, is presently operating as **V51WO** from Outjo, 350km north of Windhoek, mostly on FT8. QSL via [DL3DXX](#), [ClubLog's QQRS](#), LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2479 October 8, 2025] (1010-1024)

VE, CANADA. Watch for Mike, VE2XB, operating as **VYØZOO** from Coral Harbor on Southampton Island (NA-007), Nunavut until **December 18th**, QRV mostly on 40m CW. QSL via [VE2XB](#).

-[DXNL # 2476 September 17, 2025] (0919-1017)

VP2M, MONTSERRAT. Franco, J88BTI, moved to Montserrat (NA-103) in mid-September and is now active as **VP2MAA** on 40-6m (CW, SSB, FT8). He hopes to set up better antennas and integrate an amplifier into his setup by the end of the year. QRV until **September 2026**. QSL via [IK2DUW](#).

-[DXNL # 2479 October 8, 2025] (1010-1031)

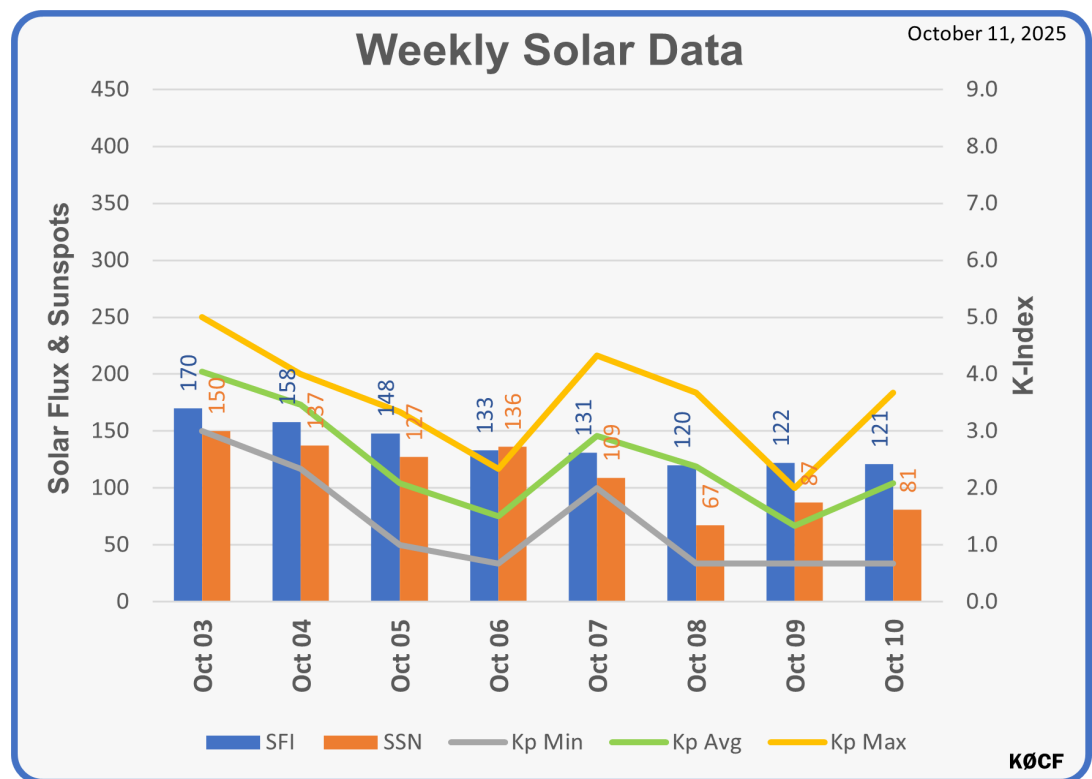
VU, INDIA. Special callsign **AT25GOA** celebrates HamFest India 2025. Look for activity from **September 29th to October 13th** on 80-10 meters SSB, CW and FT8/FT4. See <https://www.qrz.com/db/AT25GOA> for more information. QSOs will be uploaded to QRZ Logbook and ClubLog.
-[425DXN # 1796 October 4, 2025] (1003-1017)

XE, MEXICO. A group of Mexican operators will be operating with a rare prefix as **6J8A** from **October 10th to 12th**. QSL via qrz.com.
-[DXNL # 2479 October 8, 2025] (1010-1017)

XT, BURKINA FASO. Harald, DF2WO will be active again as **XT2AW** from Burkina Faso on **October 4th-27th**. Usually he operates CW, SSB and FT8/FT4 on various bands, 6 meters included, and via QO-100. QSL via [MØOXO's OQRS](#) and LoTW.
-[425DXN # 1795 September 27, 2025] (1003-1031)

ZL7, CHATHAM IS. Holger, ZL3IO, will be QRV as **ZL7IO** (OC-038, **until October 16th**. Activity is on 80m. QSL via LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 41 October 9, 2025] (1010-1017)

Propagation (Updated daily)



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-Index (Kp) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

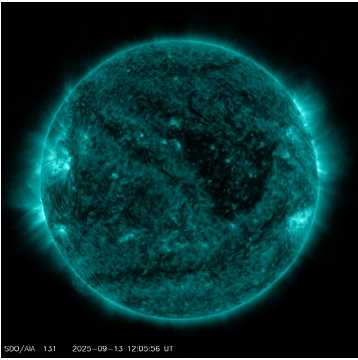
The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wave-length of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Friday, October 3rd through yesterday, October 10th.

The average solar flux was 133, down 42 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 170 on Friday, October 3rd, followed by a low of 120 on October 8th.

The average sunspot count was 106, down by 53 from last week, peaking at 150 on Friday, October 3rd followed by a weekly low of 67 on October 8th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 3.5 with a maximum of 5.0 on Friday, October 3rd, indicating a minor geomagnetic storm. Yesterday's K-index maximum was 3.7 with generally quiet conditions.

Solar flare activity since October 4th has been quiet with only 1 major flare, which was an M 2.0 event on Thursday, October 9th.

Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Saturday, October 4th through 1632 UTC, October 11th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	Oct 09	1231	M 2.0

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Oct 11	15%	1%	125
Oct 12	15%	1%	120
Oct 13	15%	1%	120

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on October 6, 2025).

Date	Flux	Kp
Oct 11	140	5
Oct 12	135	4

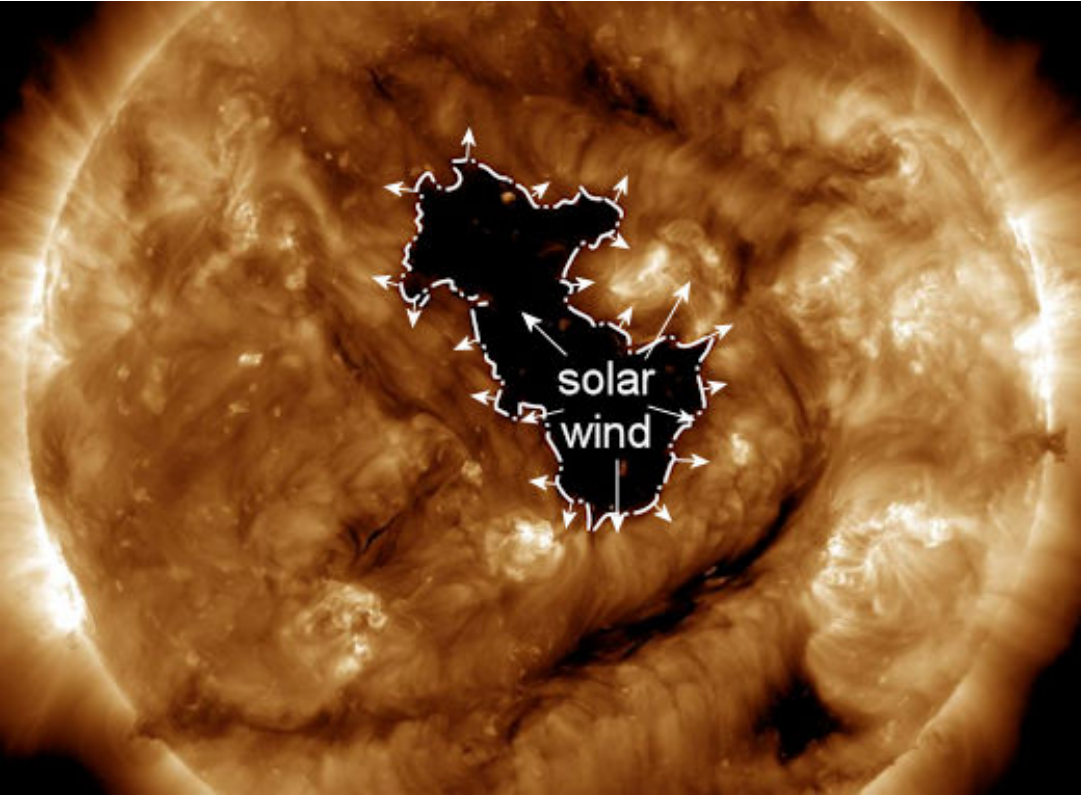
Date	Flux	Kp
Oct 15	135	2
Oct 16	140	2

Date	Flux	Kp
Oct 19	140	4
Oct 20	135	5

Oct 13	135	3	Oct 17	145	2	Oct 21	140	3
Oct 14	140	3	Oct 18	145	2	Oct 22	145	3

A Stream of Solar Wind is Approaching Earth

A hole has opened in the sun's atmosphere, and it is venting a stream of solar wind directly toward Earth. NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory photographed the dark chasm on Oct. 9th:



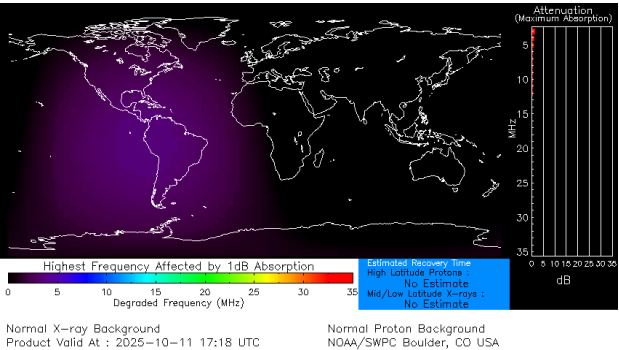
This is a "coronal hole" -- a region in the sun's atmosphere where magnetic fields open up and allow solar wind to escape. Coronal holes look dark because the glowing-hot plasma normally contained there is missing.

A stream of solar wind flowing from this coronal hole should reach Earth on Oct. 12th. Its arrival could spark G1-class geomagnetic storms. The odds of storming are increased by the "Russell-McPherron effect," which links the magnetic fields of the sun and Earth during weeks around equinoxes.

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Global D Region Absorption

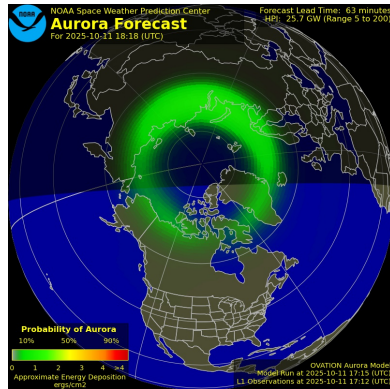
Conditions in the D-region of the ionosphere have a dramatic effect on HF communications. The D-Region Absorption map combines the effects of solar particles and photons. Yellow to red colors on the map depict increasing signal attenuation, where the bar chart at the right displays attenuation versus frequency. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of D-Region Absorption:



The Aurora Borealis

The aurora is not only beautiful to see but can have a profound impact on HF and VHF radio

propagation. For the HF operator, auroras can result in a complete shut-down of propagation. However, on VHF, auroras present interesting DX possibilities. Beam antennas are very desirable and should be pointed north, towards the aurora. Signals are reflected by "back-scatter" and will be distorted with a rough buzz. SSB is the best voice mode to use, but copy can be difficult. CW will have a rough buzzy sound but be perfectly copyable. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of aurora versus time:



Highs for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 336 on August 8, 2024.

Sunspots: 382 on August 10, 2024.

Popular Propagation web sites

<https://prop.kc2g.com/> (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

<https://www.spaceweather.com/>

<https://www.solarham.com/>

<https://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>

A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!

(Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources.)

Contest Calendar

Weekly Contests

Contest	Start UTC		End	Web Site
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	Rules
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z	
CWops Test (CWT)	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z	
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	Rules
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	Rules

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000 UTC is Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Central Daylight Saving Time zone, or Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central Standard Time zone.

Full Calendar

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party	Oct 11	0000Z	Oct 11	2359Z	Rules
Makrothen RTTY Contest	Oct 11	0000Z	Oct 12	1559Z	Rules
Nevada QSO Party	Oct 11	0300Z	Oct 12	2100Z	Rules
Oceania DX Contest, CW	Oct 11	0600Z	Oct 12	0600Z	Rules
Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB	Oct 11	1200Z	Oct 12	1200Z	Rules
Arizona QSO Party	Oct 11	1500Z	Oct 12	0500Z	Rules
Pennsylvania QSO Party	Oct 11	1600Z	Oct 12	0400Z	Rules
	Oct 12	1300Z	Oct 12	2200Z	
South Dakota QSO Party	Oct 11	1800Z	Oct 12	1800Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW	Oct 18	0001Z	Oct 19	2359Z	Rules
New York QSO Party	Oct 18	1400Z	Oct 19	0200Z	Rules
Worked All Germany Contest	Oct 18	1500Z	Oct 19	1459Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Oct 18	1500Z	Oct 19	1500Z	Rules
Illinois QSO Party	Oct 19	1700Z	Oct 20	0100Z	Rules
ARRL School Club Roundup	Oct 20	1300Z	Oct 24	2359Z	Rules
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	Oct 25	0000Z	Oct 26	2400Z	Rules
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW	Nov 1	2100Z	Nov 3	0300Z	Rules
WAE DX Contest, RTTY	Nov 8	0000Z	Nov 9	2359Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, Digital	Nov 8	0001Z	Nov 9	2359Z	Rules
JIDX Phone Contest	Nov 8	0700Z	Nov 9	1300Z	Rules

OK/OM DX Contest, CW	Nov 8	1200Z	Nov 9	1200Z	Rules
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB	Nov 15	2100Z	Nov 17	0300Z	Rules
LZ DX Contest	Nov 22	1200Z	Nov 23	1200Z	Rules
North American SSB Sprint Contest	Nov 23	0000Z	Nov 23	0400Z	Rules
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	Nov 29	0000Z	Nov 30	2400Z	Rules
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	Dec 5	2200Z	Dec 7	1600Z	Rules
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	Dec 13	0000Z	Dec 14	2359Z	Rules
ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	Dec 21	1800Z	Dec 21	2359Z	Rules
RAC Winter Contest	Dec 27	0000Z	Dec 27	2359Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Dec 27	1500Z	Dec 28	1500Z	Rules
RAEM Contest	Dec 28	0000Z	Dec 28	1159Z	Rules
ARRL Kids Day	Jan 3	1800Z	Jan 3	2359Z	Rules
ARRL RTTY Roundup	Jan 3	1800Z	Jan 4	2400Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, CW	Jan 10	1800Z	Jan 11	0600Z	Rules

(Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#))